

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-11 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 RSC-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-04 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 OMB-01

ACDA-19 DRC-01 /187 W

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R 112303Z FEB 74

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2681

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 0475

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR UNSC IZ

SUBJ: IRAQI REQUEST FOR SC MEETING

1. IRANIAN PERMREP HOVEYDA CALLED ON ME 5 00 PM FEB 12 TO DISCUSS IRAQI INITIATIVE. HE AGAIN COMPLAINED THAT IRAQIS HAD DECEIVED HIM ABOUT INTENTION TO REQUEST SC MEETING SO AS TO PREVENT IRANIANS FROM GETTING IN THEIR COMPLAINT FIRST. HE INTENDS TO FILE HIS LETTER OF COMPLAINT LATE FEB 12. LETTER WILL CONTAIN FULL TEXT OF IRANIAN NOTE OF PROTEST WHICH HE SAYS WAS GIVEN IRAQIS IN TEHRAN AND BAGHAD FEB 11.
 2. HOVEYDA HAD INTENDED FLY TO TEHRAN TONIGHT TO CONSULT WITH SHAH ABOUT ENERGY QUESTIONS AND PROPOSED GA SPECIAL SESSION. HE NOW HAS CANCELED TRAVEL PLANS IN ORDER TO FACE UP TO IRAQI INITIATIVE HERE.
 3. IN HIS INITIAL PRESENTATION TO ME, HOVEYDA SAID HE SAW NO REASON TO HAVE SC MEETING BUT STOUTLY ASSERTED IRAN HAD GOOD CASE AND WAS READY TO DO VERBAL COMBAT IN NEW YORK JUST AS IT HAD BEEN READY TO RESPOND WITH SUPERIOR FORCE TO IRAQI MILITARY PROVOCATIONS ON BORDER. HE SCORNFULLY DISMISSED IRAQ AS A PROBLEM FOR IRAN MILITARILY AND NOTED THAT EVEN FACTS
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PUBLICIZED BY IRAQIS (INCLUDING LARGE NUMBER OF IRANIAN CASUALTIES)

SUPPORTED THESIS IRAQIS WERE THE AGRESSORS. HOVEYDA SAID THAT IF HE NEEDED TO USE IT IRAN HAD AMPLE EVIDENCE INCLUDING BODIES OF 14 IRAQI SOLDIERS KILLED ON IRANIAN SIDE OF BORDER.

4. I TOLD HIM IN CONFIDENCE THAT SYG WALDHEIM HAD TENTATIVELY AND INFORMALLY RAISED WITHME POSSIBILITY THAT ONE WAY TO AVOID HAVING MEETING AT ALL WAS FOR PARTIES TO AGREE TO RECEIVE SPECIAL SYG FACT FINDING REP. I SAID NAME OF FRANCIS LACOSTE HAD BEEN MENTIONED FOR SUCH A ROLE. HOVEYDA EXPRESSED DOUBT AND IMMEDIATELY SAID HE WOULD HAVE TO ASK HIS GOVT ABOUT THIS HE REPEATEDLY STRESSED HIS DESIRE OF AVOIDING SC MEETING ALTOGETHER. HE SAID HE HAD ALREADY TALKED TO EGYPTIAN AMB MEGUID AND LEBANESE AMB GHORRA, WHO WERE GOING TO FIND OUT WHAT THE IRAQIS WERE UP TO. HE SAID HE HAD ARGUED WITH HIS ARAB CONTACTS THAT IRAQI INITIATIVE NOT ONLY UNJUSTIFIED BUT EXTREMELY UNTIMELY.

5. I AGREED WITH THIS JUDGEMENT AND ASKED WHETHER HE HAD TALKED TO MALIK. HE SAID HE WHOULD TRY TO SEE MALIK TONIGHT AND WOULD LET ME KNOW RESULTS. I EMPHASIZED TO HOVEYDA THAT RUSSIANS COULD HAVE KEY ROLE IN WHOLE AFFAIR AND THAT IT NECESSARY FOR ME TO KNOW ASAP WHAT MALIK'S LINE IS. HOVEYDA AND I AGREED TO STAY IN CLOSE TOUCH.

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